

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 05158 122258Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01
HA-05 AID-05 IO-13 /075 W
-----036083 122313Z /70

P R 122226Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 442
INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS PINT ELAB PE
SUBJ: CAMPAIGNING RESUMES, LEFT CONSIDERING WITHDRAWAL, SUTEP
STRIKE CONTINUES

REF: (A) LIMA 5045, (B) LIMA 5036

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH FOUR OF THE SIX LEFTIST PARTIES MAY BE
CONSIDERING WITHDRAWING FROM THE ELECTIONS, APRA AND PPC HAVE
SCHEDULED BUSY FINAL WEEK OF CAMPAIGNING. INDEPENDENT NEWS
MAGAZINES MAY NOT APPEAR UNTIL AFTER JUNE 18. PARTIAL TEACHERS'
STRIKE CONTINUES BUT WITHOUT MENACING ELECTORAL PROCESS. END
SUMMARY.

2. AS POLITICAL PARTIES RETURNED TO TV ON JUNE 11, CHRISTIAN
DEMOCRAT (PDC) LEADER HECTOR CORNEJO CHAVEZ ANNOUNCED THAT
LEADERS OF HIS PARTY WILL MEET SOON TO DECIDE WHETHER THE PDC
SHOULD REMAIN IN THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY RACE. CORNEJO
PROTESTED SHRTENING OF CAMPAIGN AND PRIOR "CENSORSHIP" OF TV
PRESENTATIONS (THEY MUST NOW BE PRERECORDED). ON ITS PROGRAM,
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PAGE 02 LIMA 05158 122258Z

PSR SPOKESMEN COMPLAINED OF "PERSECUTION", "DETENTION" AND
"DEPORTATION" OF LEFTIST LEADERS. THE PSR STATED THAT 11 OF ITS
LEADERS ARE IN JAIL AND 12 PSR CANDIDATES ARE EXILED OR WANTED
BY THE POLICE, AND THREATENED WITHDRAWAL IF "FULL GUARANTEES"
NOT RESTORED BY GOP IN 48 HOURS. THE LOCAL PRESS JUNE 12
REPORTED THAT THE TWO ULTRA LEFT PARTIES, FOCEP AND UDP, WERE
ALSO CONSIDERING WITHDRAWAL. A FOCEP SPOKESMAN PROTESTED THAT

HIS PARTY'S TAPED PRESENTATION HAD BEEN HANDED OVER TO THE CHANNEL 7 TV STATION BUT WAS NOT RPT NOT BROADCAST AS SCHEDULED JUNE 11. MOSCOW LINE COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER JORGE DEL PRADO CRITICIZED GOP AUSTERITY MEASURES BUT MADE NO RPT NO MENTION OF PCP'S WITHDRAWING FROM THE RACE.

3. LEADERS OF THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES (APRA AND PPC) PLAN SPECIAL APPEARANCES DURING THE FINAL WEEK OF THE CAMPAIGN. PPC'S BEDOYA REYES WILL HOLD RALLIES IN LIMA JUNE 13 AND CALLAO JUNE 15. APRA LEADER HAYA DE LA TORRE (REF B) IS VISITING IQUITOS, TARAPOTO, CHIMBOTE AND WILL END HIS CAMPAIGN JUNE 16 AT TRUJILLO IN WHAT APRA HOPES IS THE "SOLID NORTH."

4. INDEPENDENT NEWS MAGAZINE EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS ARE PRE-OCCUPIED WITH WHAT THEY CONSIDER GOP MANUEVERS TO DELAY REAPPEARANCE OF MAGAZINES UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS. THE GOP HAS DEVISED A COMPLICATED AND TIME CONSUMING FORMULA TO REGULATE REAPPEARANCE OF SOME 20 REGULARLY PUBLISHED PERIODICALS. THE GOVERNMENT'S CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION (OCI) HAS PUT OUT A LIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR MAGAZINES CALLING FOR THE NUMBERS, NAMES AND NATIONALITIES OF DIRECTORS AND INVESTORS, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN THE PUBLICATION. AFTER A MAGAZINE HAS FURNISHED THE REQUIRED INFORMATION, THE LAW PERMITS OCI TWO WEEKS TO STUDY THE REQUEST AND REACH A DECISION. TWO INDEPENDENT MAGAZINES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 LIMA 05158 122258Z

("CARETAS" AND "IMPACTO") CHALLENGED THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF A GOP DECREE REGULATING THE PUBLICATION OF PERIODICALS BY MEANS OF OCI. BIWEEKLY "CARETAS" HAS FURNISHED OCI REQUIRED INFORMATION TO SECURE PERMISSION TO PUBLISH, BUT HESITATES TO GO TO PRESS IN THE ABSENCE OF ANY GOP INDICATION THAT PERMISSION TO PUBLISH WILL BE GRANTED BEFORE ELECTIONS. THIS WEEK'S EDITION IS DEVOTED MAINLY TO PREELECTION NEWS WHICH, OF COURSE, WOULD BE OUTDATED JUNE 19.

5. ON THE LABOR FRONT, GOP MINISTER OF EDUCATION ELESURU APPEARED ON TV JUNE 8 TO DISCUSS THE TEACHER'S STRIKE. DESCRIBING SUTEP'S DEMANDS AS "BEYOND REASON" AND "IMPOSSIBLE TO SATISFY", HE CLAIMED THAT TOTAL ANNUAL INCREASE FOR SALARIES INCLUDING PENSIONS, SOCIAL SECURITY, ETC. WOULD BE 30 BILLION SOLES (197.4 MILLION DOLLARS AT THE OFFICIAL RATE OF EXCHANGE). HOWEVER, ELESURU PROMISED THAT SALARIES WOULD BE INCREASED SOMEWHAT IN 1979 AND THAT A COMMISSION WILL REVIEW CASES OF 55 FIRED PROFESSORS.. IN GENERAL, HOWEVER, HE TOOK A HARD LINE AGAINST THE UNION ITSELF. WE UNDERSTAND THAT TEACHERS IN TRUJILLO AND AREQUIPA WENT BACK TO WORK; BUT IN LIMA, ABOUT 200-300 SUTEP DEMONSTRATORS STAGED A MARCH JUNE 9 PROTESTING GOP'S POSITION AND CALLING FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE STRIKE JUNE 12.

ALTHOUGH IT APPEARS THAT SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE IS LESSENING,
MANY SCHOOLS IN LIMA-CALLAO ARE NOT AT FULL STRENGTH AND SOME
REMAIN CLOSED JUNE 12. HOWEVER, SCHOOL PROBLEM DOES NOT NOW SEEM
LIKELY TO EFFECT THE ELECTIONS.

DECON 12-79. SHLAUDEMAN

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